3972.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

olicant:

Makoto IIKAWA

Art Unit: Unknown

Appln. No.: 10/695,911

Examiner: Unknown

Filed:

October 30, 2003

For:

CAM MECHANISM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Patent Publication No. 8-146278, published June 7, 1996, along with English language patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,731,913 to IMANARI issued March 24, 1998; and

U.S. Patent No. 5,446,593 to HAMASAKI et al., issued August 29, 1995.

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Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Applications:

- U.S. Application No. 10/066,703 to Makoto IIKAWA et al., entitled "A LENS BARREL", filed on February 6, 2002; and
- U.S. Application No. 10/695,909 to Makoto IIKAWA et al., entitled "CAM RIB SUPPORT STRUCTURE", filed on October 30, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned applications are attached hereto. The Examiner is also requested to obtain and review the file wrappers of the above-mentioned copending applications and the references of record (if any) cited therein.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Makoto IIKAWA

- Reg. No. 48, 214

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

January 30, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, Virginia 20191 (703) 716-1191

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